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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 9126**  
Akira FUKUNAGA et al. : Docket No. 2001-1724A  
Serial No. 09/988,719 : Group Art Unit 1763  
Filed November 20, 2001 : Examiner R. Culbert

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
ETCHING RUTHENIUM FILMS

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

*Responsive to the Office Action of January 2, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows.*